

My name is Don Russell

JACK DAVID RAOUL MILLER

arrived in Edmonton in 1963 with the intention of working for one year at the University of Alberta Hospital. Fortunately for all of us, he chose to stay longer. The Radiology group at that time consisted of 5 Radiologists: Hector Duggan, Curley Holmes, Don Hendin, Ron Parker and Henry Pribram.

Jack graduated as a mechanical engineer, (his training in engineering may have inspired him to try to become a semi expert handyman around the house - although his family may not attest to his skills). Then he realized he wanted to be a physician. He graduated from Medical School in South Africa, interned in England and was a resident in Diagnostic Radiology, Therapeutic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine for 4 years in Chicago. Jim Crooks, who was a resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Chicago at the same time, convinced Jack to come to Edmonton.

Jack had over 60 publications and presentations during his career in Edmonton. Many of those were co-authored with associates and friends in the neuro-sciences.

He was instrumental in the design of the Department of Radiology in the Walter C. MacKenzie Health Sciences Centre.

He taught more than 160 Radiology residents, countless Medical students, residents from other specialties, technologists and a host of other graduate and post graduate students - many from other parts of the world.

He did all this while carrying a full practice load with one of the most onerous call schedules in Medicine (continuous call to 1972, and one night in two thereafter for many years).

Jack was the Professor and Chair of Radiology from 1970 to 1983 - as such he was also head of Resident Training. These appointments added administrative functions to his already heavy work load (he often referred to himself as a Neuro-administrator). He oversaw rapid growth of the department and the acquisition of all the newest technologies. These were functions and positions for which he received no remuneration from the university or the hospital.

Jack's practice was primarily Neuro-radiology with a considerable amount of general angiography. He was respected throughout the Medical Profession as one of the Canadian pioneers in Neuro-radiology. He was made a Fellow of the American Society of Radiology (1984) in recognition of his many contributions to Radiology.

The speciality of Radiology and the sub-speciality of Neuro-radiology changed dramatically during his career, but he always kept up to date, and was eager to accept and learn new modalities including CT and MRI.

When he retired, the department library was named after him - a sign of the great respect that was felt by all in the department.

I was extremely fortunate to spend my career in practice with Jack and looked upon him not only as a mentor and a role model, but also as a very dear friend. We shared much over that 40 year period and I have so many fond memories:

- the many times he took residents to lunch, and the pizza teaching rounds
- the way he could (and did) fall asleep anywhere and during almost any activity which involved sitting down (most noticeably during boring presentations)
- his ability to diagnose equipment problems as "it smells electrical"
- his kindness, chivalry, courtesy, integrity and generosity.

his collegiality and dedication to patients and staff

Despite Jack's shorter stature, in his presence I sometimes felt like the fabled dwarf standing on the shoulders of a giant.....he taught me to see so far!

Jack Miller was a class act!

I shall miss him so much....

My sincere sympathy to Miriam, and to Jack's and Miriam's families for this great loss.

(Note: Don Russell was unable to attend the funeral. This eulogy was read by Patrick Heslip at the service. Don Russell stands several inches over six feet tall, Jack Miller stood several inches under six feet tall).